

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# CHORAL READING STRATEGIES

Choral speaking is defined as the reading or reciting of a text by a group.

When preparing a text for choral reading, keep in mind the following elements of choral speaking:

- Dynamics: variation in volume (i.e. speaking loudly or quietly)
- Pitch: difference in the highness, or lowness of sound
- Tempo: variation in the speed in which you speak (fast or slow)
- Tone: creating difference in light, medium or heavy sounds for emphasis.

In order to make your presentation interesting, use the following techniques in rehearsals to achieve contrast in the above elements:

1. **UNISON** (whole group together as one voice)
2. **ANTIPHONAL** (2 or more smaller groups, standing on either side of or surrounding the audience)
3. **LEADER** (a leader reads with the chorus speaking random or significant words together in unison)
4. **GENDER** (men's voices in contrast to women's voices)
5. **CANON** (speaking in a round)
6. **MOVEMENT** (speaking while moving around the audience, classroom or stage space)
7. **REPETITION or ECHO** (choosing to repeat or echo significant words during the performance)

Make sure that your group understands the meaning of the text you're working with before you begin introducing the above techniques. They are best used to emphasise the most important moments in the text.